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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, STEWART L. UDALL, SECRETARY
Stanly A. Cain, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
Fish and Wildlife Service, Clarence F. Pautzke, Commissioner
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, John S. Gottschalk, Director
Washington, D.C. 20240

Wildlife Leaflet 471 September 1965

FUR CATCH IN THE UNITED STATES, 1964

Compiled in the Bird and Mammal Laboratories
Division of Wildlife Research

This summary of the wild fur catch for the 1963-1964 trapping season consists of information supplied by State game and conservation commissions, for whose assistance we are grateful. Without their cooperation, this compilation would have been impossible.

Since approximately the same number of States supplied fur catch data for 1964 as for 1963, it is possible to cite percentage increase or decrease over 1963 for the animals harvested:

Badger	+31%	Fisher	+ 5%	Muskrat	+ 8%	Skunk	- 2%
Bassarisk	-67%	Foxes	+ 3%	Nutria	- 4%	Weasel	+26%
Beaver	+14%	Lynx	+18%	Opossum	-39%	Wolf	+ 7%
Bobcat	+13%	Marten	-25%	Otter	-14%	Wolverine	-38%
Coyote	+42%	Mink	-13%	Raccoon	-29%		

North Dakota reported 192,395 jack rabbits--or 7,822 more than in 1963, an increase of 4%; Hawaii continues to have no wild fur harvest.

The average prices paid by 19 States to trappers in 1964 were above prices paid in 1963 in only four species: bobcat (up 14%); coyote (up 12%); muskrat (up 10%); and otter (up 10%). Prices fell below those paid in 1963 in seven species: raccoon (down 30%); mink (down 13%); opossum (down 13%); red fox (down 10%); weasel (down 7%); beaver (down 6%); and striped skunk (down 2%).

Despite the domestic supply of fur animals, the United States annually imports considerable quantities of certain pelts in demand such as beaver, foxes, marten, muskrat, nutria, otter, weasel, ermine, and mink. Mink is still the most wanted fur because of its lustrous appearance and light weight, and consequently it has been the mainstay of the fur industry for a number of years.

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CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

WILD FUR ANIMAL CATCH BY STATES, 1963-64

STATE	Badger	Bassarisk (Ringtail Cat)	Beaver	Bobcat	Coyote	Fisher	Fox Gray, Red, Cross & Silver	Lynx (Canadian)
Alabama	.....	.....	2,025	50	.....	.....	275	.....
Alaska 1/ 2/ 5/	.....	.....	14,046	.....	69	.....	1,000	4,700
Arizona *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arkansas *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
California	18	85	1,651	361	346	.....	213	.....
Colorado	61	.....	9,768	2,113	8,094	.....	42	.....
Connecticut	.....	.....	244	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Delaware	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Florida	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	.....	3	.....
Georgia	.....	.....	1,623	.....	.....	.....	375	.....
Hawaii *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Idaho	77	.....	5,376	972	232	.....	150	28
Illinois	.....	.....	1,000	.....	.....	.....	1,027	.....
Indiana	5	.....	300	.....	.....	.....	22,100	.....
Iowa	99	.....	9,294	.....	61	.....	6,842	.....
Kansas	196	.....	6,110	6	1,189	.....	107	.....
Kentucky	.....	.....	37	2	.....	.....	714	.....
Louisiana	.....	.....	25	26	.....	.....	139	.....
Maine 3/	.....	.....	13,065	588	.....	1,734	136	.....
Maryland	.....	.....	179	.....	.....	.....	259	.....
Massachusetts	.....	.....	1,525	.....	.....	.....	94	.....
Michigan	130	.....	4,825	494	3,845	.....	36,917	.....
Minnesota	2,044	.....	21,600	359	725	.....	33,283	281
Mississippi *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Missouri	27	.....	6,068	16	44	.....	1,550	.....
Montana	190	.....	16,000	1,500	290	.....	750	380
Nebraska	.....	.....	10,737	129	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nevada *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Hampshire	.....	.....	2,907	45	.....	225	87	1
New Jersey *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Mexico *	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New York	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	391	.....	.....
North Carolina	.....	.....	248	148	.....	.....	1,182	.....
North Dakota 4/	797	.....	2,790	135	376	.....	21,531	.....
Ohio	4	.....	183	.....	.....	.....	5,978	.....
Oklahoma	.....	.....	522	12	82	.....	119	.....
Oregon	24	2	7,143	481	161	.....	85	.....
Pennsylvania	.....	.....	5,221	.....	.....	.....	4,018	.....
Rhode Island	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	391	.....
South Carolina	.....	.....	.....	26	.....	.....	37	.....
South Dakota	450	.....	405	150	75	.....	1,701	.....
Tennessee	.....	.....	.....	87	.....	.....	767	.....
Texas	1	34,202	40	34	3	.....	979	.....
Utah	.....	.....	5,004	.....	.....	NOS	.....	.....
Vermont	.....	.....	2,696	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Virginia	.....	.....	4,336	51	.....	.....	1,896	.....
Washington	12	.....	20,967	384	489	.....	176	9
West Virginia	.....	.....	879	53	.....	.....	1,581	.....
Wisconsin	NOS	.....	12,006	.....	.....	NOS	10,525	NOS
Wyoming	2	.....	400	12	.....	.....	10	.....
TOTAL	4,137	34,289	191,245	8,247	16,081	2,350	157,039	5,399

NOS - No open season
1/ Alaska: Blue and white fox - 1,200.
2/ Includes hair seal - 18,000.
5/ Includes Pribilof Islands fur seal - 64,206

3/ Maine: Paid bounty on bobcats.
4/ North Dakota: Included jack rabbits and bracketed bobcats and Canadian lynx.
* States with asterisks gave no report.

WILD FUR ANIMAL CATCH BY STATES, 1963-64

STATE	Marten	Mink	Muskrat	Nutria	Opossum	Otter	Raccoon	Skunk & Civet Cat	Weasel	Timber Wolf	Wolverine
Alabama.....	.....	4,770	6,373	176	1,876	339	8,080	88	30	...	...
Alaska.....	6,200	23,000	49,000	.....	.....	2,300	.....	.....	1,500	800	250
Arizona*.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
Arkansas*.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
California.....	.....	1,244	88,398	.....	152	.....	1,424	491	35	...	...
Colorado.....	56	45	20,665	.....	4	.....	438	219	35	...	...
Connecticut....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
Delaware.....	.....	30	26,000	.....	250	40	1,000	.....	75	...	...
Florida.....	.....	70	.....	.....	27	2,611	5,541	.....	.....	...	...
Georgia.....	.....	1,461	6,693	.....	1,260	336	3,288	189	.....	...	...
Hawaii*.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
Idaho.....	221	2,665	97,960	19	.....	80	531	204	266	...	...
Illinois.....	.....	4,917	103,289	.....	2,132	.....	61,758	122	40	...	...
Indiana.....	.....	9,500	220,700	.....	41,000	.....	84,900	1,400	300	...	...
Iowa.....	.....	21,032	555,055	.....	3,052	.....	77,428	3,775	203	...	...
Kansas.....	.....	2,714	29,720	.....	8,961	.....	41,396	2,777	41	...	...
Kentucky.....	.....	9,139	78,527	.....	5,392	.....	16,030	317	150	...	...
Louisiana.....	.....	18,805	240,079	1,304,267	7,593	4,274	58,424	301	.....	...	...
Maine.....	NOS	3,698	33,251	.....	.....	471	2,791	195	702	...	...
Maryland.....	.....	346	195,221	.....	410	303	7,566	97	71	...	...
Massachusetts..	.....	1,146	60,960	.....	.....	77	1,698	12	7	...	...
Michigan.....	.....	14.690	209,330	.....	2,100	485	214,040	2,060	2,470	1	...
Minnesota.....	.....	40,310	427,885	.....	351	237	10,101	9,578	12,893	172	...
Mississippi*...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
Missouri.....	.....	10,126	101,883	.....	29,432	.....	132,242	2,651	37	...	...
Montana.....	435	9,500	48,600	.....	.....	65	2,400	2,100	1,000	...	37
Nebraska.....	.....	9,359	151,142	14	3,746	.....	21,162	1,975	.....	...	...
Nevada*.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
New Hampshire..	.....	1,104	9,993	.....	.....	196	1,353	19	67	...	...
New Jersey*....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
New Mexico*....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
New York 1/....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300	207,825	.....	.....	...	...
North Carolina.	.....	11,561	136,917	475	8,080	1,739	43,049	288	190	...	...
North Dakota...	.....	6,311	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,680	2,033	1,142	...	...
Ohio.....	.....	10,327	519,573	.....	11,793	.....	145,714	1,128	1,357	...	...
Oklahoma.....	.....	1,102	4,916	.....	8,067	.....	9,942	1,556	.....	...	...
Oregon.....	40	1,616	25,588	1,749	108	294	1,195	278	31	...	...
Pennsylvania...	.....	5,918	446,157	.....	4,696	.....	40,911	1,376	947	...	...
Rhode Island...	.....	364	4,566	.....	.....	9	222	43	23	...	...
South Carolina.	.....	1,269	2,769	.....	206	284	9,961	.....	3	...	...
South Dakota...	.....	28,440	34,320	.....	.....	.....	4,850	1,290	270	...	...
Tennessee.....	.....	10,202	62,028	.....	8,317	.....	16,377	921	39	...	...
Texas.....	.....	1,228	.....	2,421	5,204	.....	40,141	927	1	3	...
Utah.....	8	476	.....	.....	.....	NOS	.....	.....	.....	...	...
Vermont.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...
Virginia.....	.....	4,720	203,070	95	6,847	1,136	3,636	4,121	189	...	...
Washington.....	94	4,162	39,460	.....	291	1,002	2,452	769	249	...	...
West Virginia..	.....	2,381	58,965	.....	5,561	.....	17,065	2,254	262	...	...
Wisconsin.....	.....	37,300	695,200	.....	345	841	62,200	431	.....	...	...
Wyoming.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	...	...
TOTAL.....	7,054	317,048	4,994,253	1,309,216	167,353	17,419	1,366,814	45,985	24,625	976	287

NOS - No open season

1/ New York: Raccoon - gave gunning figures only.

* States with asterisks gave no report.

SAMPLES OF AVERAGE PRICES PER PELT RECEIVED BY TRAPPERS, 1963-64

STATE	Beaver	Bobcat	Coyote	Mink	Muskrat	Opossum	Otter	Raccoon	Red fox*	Striped skunk	Weasel
Alaska.....	22.00	....	5.00	22.00	.75	...	25.00	....	7.00	....	1.00
California....	8.10	3.35	2.62	6.97	1.13	.39	.....	1.51	.93	1.01	.21
Colorado.....	8.00	6.18	3.46	5.10	.78	.22	.....	1.47	1.52	.51	.50
Idaho.....	9.72	5.56	3.50	10.52	.98	...	16.83	1.39	2.94	.58	.41
Kansas.....	7.12	.90	1.11	9.17	1.01	.30	.....	1.17	1.19	.38	.78
Louisiana.....	5.00	....	....	6.00	1.75	.25	18.00	1.25	1.00	.25	....
Maine.....	13.87	2.78	....	11.23	1.17	...	23.50	1.57	2.38	.82	.52
Michigan.....	12.00	....	....	8.00	1.15	...	20.00	1.00	2.00	....	.50
Minnesota.....	10.98	2.75	2.50	12.25	.90	...	30.00	1.50	2.50	.62	.25
Missouri.....	5.60	.75	.50	10.30	1.15	.35	.....	1.15	1.40	.45	.75
Montana.....	10.18	6.18	5.00	12.38	.98	...	15.85	1.65	2.30	.86	.69
Nebraska.....	6.69	4.49	....	9.97	.87	.37	.....	1.32	....	.62	....
North Dakota..	6.84	5.29	2.49	15.54	....	...	.....	2.36	1.82	.83	.66
Ohio.....	10.54	....	....	8.60	1.39	.37	.....	1.43	1.41	.64	.80
Oregon.....	7.94	5.78	4.37	7.64	.98	.30	21.71	1.45	1.51	.86	.49
Pennsylvania..	11.65	....	....	8.43	1.22	.29	.....	1.15	.69	.50	.66
Tennessee.....	.....	1.09	....	8.47	1.27	.32	.....	1.01	1.63	.62	.60
Texas.....	3.00	1.00	1.00	5.00	....	.50	.....	1.50	.50	1.00	....
West Virginia.	8.97	1.56	....	7.22	1.33	.42	.....	1.16	1.52	.69	1.00

* The following States submitted prices received for pelts of red and gray foxes combined: California - .93; Colorado - 1.52.

The Department of the Interior, created in 1849, is our Nation's Department of Natural Resources, concerned with management, conservation, and development of water, wildlife, fish, mineral, forest, and park and recreational resources. It also has major responsibilities for Indian and Territorial affairs.

As America's principal conservation agency, the Department works to assure that nonrenewable resources are developed and used wisely, that park and recreational resources are conserved for the future, and that renewable resources make their full contribution to the progress, prosperity, and security of the United States, now and in the future.

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